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BROMYARD URBAN DISTRICT

Herefordshire



Joint
A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and of the
Public Health Inspector
for the year 1961



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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL
(As at 31st December 1961)

R.A. Pullen	Chairman of the Council
D.R.G. Morris	Vice-Chairman of the Council and Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee
D.H. Evans	
H.R. Hartwright	
J. James	
E.G. Jones	
M.J. Peto, M.B., Ch.B., D.Obst.	
Mrs. E.C. Powell	
G.T. Ross	
F.J. Wall	Chairman of the Highways, Buildings, Public Health and Lighting Committee

Clerk of the Council .. L.A. Flint, LL.B.

G.D.K. NEEDHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health,
Westfield Walk,
LEOMINSTER.

(Telephone: Leominster 2049)

A.A. MAXWELL, M.A.P.H.I.,
Public Health Inspector,
Surveyor's Office,
BROMYARD.

(Telephone: Bromyard 2147)

To the Chairman and Members,
Bromyard Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Powell, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual
report for the year 1961.

I wish to thank Mr. Maxwell for completing
much of this report, and for his help in the past year.

G.D.K. NEEDHAM

Medical Officer of Health

North Herefordshire Public Health Office,
Westfield Walk,
LEOMINSTER,
Herefordshire.

STATISTICS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	213
Estimated mid-year home population	1,670
Average number of persons per acre	7.8
Number of inhabited houses	580
Average number of inhabited houses per acre	2.7
Average number of persons per house	2.9
Rateable Value	£17,611
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£70

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHSLive Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ..	16	14	30
Illegitimate ..	1	1	2
	<hr/> 17 <hr/>	<hr/> 15 <hr/>	<hr/> 32 <hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
Bromyard U.D. (Crude) ..	19.1	15.4	12.4	21.9	12.9
" " (Adjusted) ..	20.2	16.3	13.1	23.2	13.7
England and Wales ..	17.4	17.1	16.5	16.4	16.1

Illegitimate Live Births

Per cent of total live births:

Bromyard U.D. ..	6.2
England and Wales ..	5.9

Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ..	-	-	-
Illegitimate ..	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:

	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
Bromyard U.D. ..	Nil	34.5	Nil	Nil	120.0
England and Wales ..	19.1	19.8	21.0	21.6	22.4

INFANT DEATH RATESEarly Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 week old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	-	-	-
Illegitimate	..	-	-	-

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Bromyard U.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales	..	figure not yet available

Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	-	-	-
Illegitimate	..	-	-	-

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Bromyard U.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales	..	15.5

Perinatal MortalityStill Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	-	-	-
Illegitimate	..	-	-	-

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Bromyard U.D.	..	Nil
England and Wales	..	32.2

Infant MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 year of age

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	-	-	-
Illegitimate	..	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births:

		1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
Bromyard U.D.	(Total	Nil	Nil	47.6	27.0	45.4
	(Legitimate	Nil	Nil	47.6	27.0	50.0
	(Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
England & Wales	(Total	21.6	21.9	22.2	22.5	23.1
	(Legitimate	*	21.5	21.9	22.3	22.8
	(Illegitimate	*	26.4	27.4	27.8	30.0

* figures not yet available

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Total number of Maternal Deaths .. Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Bromyard U.D. .. Nil
England and Wales .. 0.33

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Total number of deaths from all causes:	10	11	21
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:			

		1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
Bromyard U.D.	(Crude)	12.6	12.9	15.9	14.2	16.5
"	(Adjusted)	11.5	11.7	14.5	12.9	15.0
England and Wales		12.0	11.5	11.6	11.7	11.5

Cancer

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Malignant Disease:	1	5	6
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:			

		1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
Bromyard U.D.	..	3.59	2.92	3.53	1.77	1.18
England and Wales	..	2.15	2.16	2.14	2.12	2.09

Cardio-Vascular Disease

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Cardio-Vascular Disease:	7	5	12
Cardio-Vascular Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:			

		1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
Bromyard U.D.	..	7.18	7.60	8.22	8.88	10.59
England and Wales	..	6.10	6.00	5.88	6.07	5.84

Respiratory Disease (excluding Tuberculosis)

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Respiratory Disease:	2	-	2
Respiratory Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:			
	1961	1960	1959 1958 1957
Bromyard U.D. ..	1.20	1.17	1.18 0.59 1.76
England and Wales ..	1.60	1.26	1.53 1.37 1.38

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

Disease	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	1	5	6
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	2	4
Coronary disease, angina	4	-	4
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	1
Other heart disease	1	1	2
Other circulatory disease	-	1	1
Influenza	1	-	1
Bronchitis	1	-	1
TOTAL:	10	11	21

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE - BROMYARD URBAN DISTRICT

Disease	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
Whooping Cough	6	-	-	-	2
Measles	12	5	2	1	32
Scarlet Fever	-	2	5	2	1
Erysipelas	-	-	2	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	2
Dysentery	2	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	2	-	1	-	2
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis:					
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	1

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE - NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE

Whooping Cough	126	70	38	39	192
Measles	583	189	388	258	144
Scarlet Fever	11	23	46	28	71
Erysipelas	3	4	4	2	7
Acute Encephalitis:					
Infective	1	3	-	-	-
Post-Infectious	-	1	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	18	18	33	14	49
Dysentery	62	123	3	16	38
Food Poisoning	11	39	3	5	10
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	2	3
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	9	7	13	7	33
Non-Pulmonary	2	3	2	3	4
Acute Poliomyelitis:					
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	12
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	14

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HERFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1961

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	9	13	15	29	32	11	13	-	2	-	2	-	126
Measles	19	62	218	86	50	37	38	22	16	17	18	-	583
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	5	1	1	11
Erysipelas	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Acute Encephalitis:													
Infective	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	5	5	-	1	1	2	-	-	1	1	1	1	18
Dysentery	-	2	17	9	17	7	1	-	5	4	-	-	62
Food Poisoning	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	2	1	11
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	1	1	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	9
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1

COMPARATIVE CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	North Here- fordshire	England & Wales
Whooping Cough	3.47	0.53
Measles	16.08	16.52
Scarlet Fever	0.30	0.43
Erysipelas	0.08	0.05
Acute Encephalitis:		
Infective	0.03	0.003
Acute Pneumonia	0.49	0.40
Dysentery	1.71	0.44
Food Poisoning	0.30	0.17
* Puerperal Pyrexia	1.71	0.01
Tuberculosis:		
Pulmonary	0.25	0.42
Non-Pulmonary	0.06	0.06

* per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at 31st December, 1960.	6	3	1	3
New cases notified	1	1	-	-
Recovered	1	-	-	-
Number on Register at 31st December, 1961.	6	4	1	3

TUBERCULOSIS (Continued)

Year	New Notifications	Total cases on Register	Deaths	Recoveries
1957	3	11	Nil	2
1958	Nil	14	Nil	Nil
1959	1	14	Nil	Nil
1960	Nil	13	Nil	1
1961	2	14	Nil	1

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action needed to be taken under this section during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION OF REPORTWATER SUPPLY

The taking over by the Herefordshire Water Board of the supplies in the area has taken from the Urban Council the headaches and complaints. When the Council were the authority for water supply, many petty complaints that were received had to be investigated, and the Authority was always the subject of attack: now the undertaking is centralised the complaints have ceased, even though the problems that existed during the Council's control still exist.

Number of houses connected to supply under the control of the Herefordshire Water Board 603

Number of water samples taken during the year for bacteriological examination 8
All of these proved to be satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Number of houses			
Connected to public sewers	Connected to private disposal works	Using pail or earth closets	Without satisfactory means of disposal
584	9	5	5

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL (Continued)Sewage Disposal Plant

This hardy annual must again be mentioned in the report, but, with the Inquiry having been held by the Ministry, progress is now on the way and perhaps by the end of 1962 we may see the fruition of a dream that has existed since 1894, of a proper disposal plant for the Urban district. The design of the works takes into consideration the future development of the area, and with this, one of the major problems of increased population can be faced.

It is hoped that once the works have been constructed that the complaints of river pollution will cease. The maintenance of the works will be another problem, and the engagement of an employee to supervise and maintain the disposal plant in a satisfactory manner will be essential.

HOUSING

The general housing conditions in the area could well be better. Many derelict houses have in the past been repaired and modernised to bring them up to the present day standard. The Ministry, realising these facts, have introduced Discretionary Grants, but these are subject to the sanction and approval of the local councils. In some areas, like our Urban authority, discretionary grants are not viewed with favour, and grants made under the Standard Grant system are grudgingly approved. If the general standard of housing is to be raised, is it not time for statutory legislation to be introduced to cover both types of grants, especially if the dwelling is for letting?

Improvement Grants

Eight applications under this scheme were approved.

Council houses

The erection of houses is an expensive venture, and it is sometimes found that once tenants from sub-standard dwellings become Council tenants, they find all faults possible with the houses and are continually asking for repairs, which, in privately owned houses they would never dream of requesting. Do they treat the houses in the same careful manner as they look after the family motor car?

Rent Act, 1957

No action needed to be taken during the year.

Housing Statistics

1 (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	48
(b)	Number of inspections	131
2 (a)	Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(b)	Number of inspections	5
Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notice:		
1 (a)	Number of houses rendered fit through informal action	7
(b)	Number of defective houses (excluding those in (a)) in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action	14
Action under Statutory Powers during the year:		
1	Proceedings under Sec. 9, 10, and 16, Housing Act, 1936.	
(a)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(b)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	Nil
2	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.	
(a)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(b)	Number of houses where defects were remedied after service of formal notice	Nil
3	Proceedings under Sec. 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(a)	Number of representations made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation	3
(b)	Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(c)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(d)	Action under Sec. 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Misc. Provisions) Act, 1953, dwelling-houses closed	Nil

Housing Statistics (Continued)

(e) Undertaking not to use for human habitation accepted and houses demolished voluntarily	3
4 Proceedings under Sec. 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(a) Number of Clearance Areas represented during the year	Nil
(b) Number of houses included in these areas	Nil
(c) Number of displaced persons	Nil
(d) Action taken during the year in respect of Clearance Areas:	
(1) by Clearance Order, number made ..	Nil
(2) by Compulsory Purchase Order ..	Nil
(e) Number of houses in Clearance Areas demolished during the year	Nil
(f) Number of houses vacated during the year	Nil
(g) Number of persons rehoused from houses demolished during the year	Nil
(h) Number of families rehoused from Clearance Areas	Nil
5 Housing Act, 1936 (Part IV) Overcrowding.	
(a) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
(b) Number of cases relieved during the year	1
(c) Number of persons concerned	4

PUBLIC CLEANSING

As mentioned in previous reports, the amount of refuse collected from the houses in this area far exceeds the normal of towns of a similar size, and either through the good-will of the collectors or the wastage of the householders the amount of refuse collected seems to be increasing every year.

RODENT CONTROL

The rodent infestations in the district have declined due to the efficient work of the Operator. Strict attention is paid to the refuse tip and the outfall of the sewers. The infestations where animal carcasses and offal are stored still cause some concern, also the action of some ratepayers in dumping food refuse in open containers.

SWIMMING BATHS

There is no public swimming bath in the district.

FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISIONMeat Inspection

The two slaughterhouses in the town have been approved by the Ministry.

The strict routine inspection of the carcasses slaughtered in both of these premises is indeed a problem, and in my opinion the time has come for limitation of slaughtering hours to enable adequate supervision and inspection of the meat.

Six persons are licensed to slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-54. No licences extend to the slaughter of horses.

Carcases and Offal found unfit in whole or in part and surrendered:-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	506	41	119	1991	518
Number inspected	506	41	119	1991	518
<u>All diseases except Tubercul- osis & Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	-	-	3	6	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	171	20	9	501	49
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	-	1	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	7	2	-	-	7
<u>Cysticerosis</u>					
Whole carcasses or carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	-	-	-	-	-

Meat Inspection (Continued)Unsound meat surrendered

Abscesses	75 lb.
Actinobacillosis	28 lb.
Bilateral Pyelonephritis	31 lb.
Bone Taint	14 lb.
Distomatosis	381 lb.
Inflammation	18 lb.
Oedema	5 lb.
Parasites	118 lb.
Septicaemia	10 lb.
Tuberculosis	685 lb.
Bruising	182 lb.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Only three visits were made specifically under this Act during the year. However, other visits were made under other laws, such as the Food Hygiene Regulations.

FOOD HYGIENETypes of Food Premises in the district

Bakehouses	3
Cafes and Canteens	10
Grocers and General Stores	14
Greengrocers	5
Retail Fishmongers	3
Fried Fish Fryers	2
Sweet Shops	8
Butchers	4
Licensed Premises	10

During the year 13 visits were made to Bakers, 167 to Butchers shops, and 18 to Fried Fish shops.

Foodstuffs Condemned

The following was surrendered by traders:

8 tins	Pork	119 tins	Tomatoes
24 "	Corned Beef	121 "	Peas
78 "	Assorted Meat Products	61 "	Evaporated Milk
20 "	Grapefruit	17 "	Pears
12 "	Fruit Salad	3 "	Creamed Rice
12 "	Oranges	16 "	Fish Products
18 "	Peaches		
4 lb.	Lard	14 lb.	Herrings
4 lb.	Butter	14 lb.	Cod
28 lb.	Coconut	7 lb.	Hake
14 lb.	Plaice	7 lb.	Whiting
36 lb.	Haddock		

Ice-Cream

All ice-cream sold in the district is pre-packed and stored under hygienic conditions.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICTTotal numbers of InspectionsPublic Health Acts

Obstructed drains and sewers	12
Drainage and sewer tests	14
General Nuisances:	
Dwellinghouses	16
Other premises	4
Cleanliness of houses	4
Keeping of animals	-
Infestation (except rodents)	1
Disinfection	5
Moveable Dwellings	51
Water Supply	12

Public Cleansing Service

Refuse Collection	52
Refuse Disposal	52
Cesspools	14

General Inspections

Dwellinghouses	18
Hotels and places of entertainment ..	26
Public Conveniences	52
Others	18

Housing Acts

Improvement Grants	16
Housing Consolidated Regulations	4
Re-inspections	28
Overcrowding	1
Certificates of Disrepair	-
Rehousing applications	3
Housing Survey	4

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Visits	16
Re-visits	32

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Part I	34
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Shops Act, 1950	46
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Food and Drugs Act

Fried Fish shops	18
Butchers shops	167
Bakehouses	18
Grocery & General Stores	80
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	18
Hotel and Catering kitchens	26
Other food preparing or serving premises	50
Confectionery shops	26
Ice-cream sellers	26
Licensed Premises	26
Slaughterhouses	142
Market	52
Food delivery vans	14

Summary of Repairs and Sanitary ImprovementsInterior of Houses

Sinks renewed	4
Sash cords repaired and windows repaired	5
Doors repaired or renewed	2
Chimney flues repaired	4
Defective gas pipes repaired	12
Burst water or defective water pipes repaired	61
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	9
Steps taken to combat dampness	2
Proper lighting and ventilation of food store ..	1

Exterior of Houses

Gutters renewed or repaired	6
Leaking roofs repaired	8
Rainwater pipes renewed or repaired ..	12
Defective chimney pots repaired	7
Walls repointed	2
Yard pavings repaired	3
Outbuildings repaired	2

Drainage

Choked drains and sewers cleared	22
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	12
Manholes repaired	3
Choked W.Cs. repaired	8
New inspection chambers installed	2

Sanitary Conveniences

Flushing cisterns renewed or repaired ..	29
W.C. pedestals renewed	5
W.C. roofs repaired	-
W.C. doors repaired	3

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1959

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by the L.A.	15	34	-	-
Factories not in- cluded above in which Sec.7 is en- forced by L.A.	-	-	-	-
Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by L.A.	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACTS (Continued)

Cases in which defects were found

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Want of cleanliness:	2	2

Outwork

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in Aug. list required by Sec.110(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of in- stances of work in unwhole- some prem- ises	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel:						
Making etc.	6	-	-	-	-	-

